

Message Text

SECRET

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17

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 NEA-07 INR-05 NSC-05 L-01

EUR-08 CIAE-00 SP-02 SCCT-01 SY-02 USSS-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6273

INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 10976

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT ET

SUBJECT: SAFETY OF IMPERIAL FAMILY AND POLITICAL PRISONERS

REF: STATE 216754

LOCAL PAPERS THIS MORNING ANNOUNCE RELEASE OF 55 POLITICAL PRISONERS, LIST HEADED BY FORMER FONMIN MENASSIE HAILE. SPECTEL WILL GIVE DETAILS. THIS IS GOOD OR BAD NEWS DEPENDING ON HOW ONE VIEWS IT. DEPT WILL KNOW THAT PERSISTENT REPORTS, SOME PROBABLY DELIBERATELY FROM DIRG, HAVE SAID EPMG PLANS TO RELEASE SOME, ANNOUNCE PRISON SENTENCES FOR SOME, AND EXECUTE SOME. THUS RELEASES COULD BE BEGINNING OF SCENARIO WE WISH TO FORESTALL.

SUGGEST THAT INSTEAD OF HEAVING SIGN OF RELIEF, WE AND OTHER GOVTS CONCERNED SHOULD PROCEED WITH PLANS FOR STIMULATION OF EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FOR FUTURE. ANY SUCH MESSAGES (FROM WALDHEIM FOR INSTANCE) COULD BEGIN BY EXPRESSING SATISFACTION AT RELEASE OF 55 AND THEN SAY THAT BECAUSE REPORTS PERSIST OF PLANS TO EXECUTE OTHERS, BLANK GOVT WISHES TO SAY THAT SHOULD EXECUTIONS OCCUR, BILATERAL RELATIONS WOULD BE AFFECTED. I PLAN TO USE THIS FORMULA IF OPPORTUNITIES ARISE FOR TALKS WITH HIGH EPMG OFFICIALS IN

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NEXT FEW DAYS, INCORPORATING LANGUAGE AUTHORIZED REFTEL.

HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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